The first meeting for the Standing Committee on the Union Ministers and Chief Ministers on Food Management and Agricultural Exports was held on 6th July, 2001, where the following agenda items were discussed:—

(i) Enhancing the efficiency of procurement and reducing the cost of distribution of foodgrains under PDS through decentralized and active involvement of the State.

(ii) Implementation of the Food for Work Programme and Grain Bank Scheme.

(iii) Review of Essential Commodities Act and Control Orders to ensure free movement.

An Inter-Ministerial Group has been constituted by the Standing Committee to work out modalities of Food for Work Programme and Grain Bank Scheme. The Group is expected to submit its report in four weeks. On restructuring of the system of procurement of foodgrains, it was decided that the Government of India would work out a detailed proposal in consultation with the States. There was general consensus that the restrictions on movement of foodgrains need to be removed and that controls on trade of foodgrains need to be reviewed.

With regard to building of awareness on WTO related issues, a series of State-level meetings are planned, two of which have already been held.

Infrastructure at Central Agricultural University, Imphal

649. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when the infrastructure of the Headquarter of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal would be completed;

(b) the funds allotted for the year 2001-2002 for the purpose; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in the completion of construction of University Headquarter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Sir, the construction of heaquarter buildings has not been started since there is no provision of funds for the construction of headquarter buildings in Phase-I.

The State Government has allotted 287.97 acres of land to the University but the physical possession has not been given till now.

(b) No funds has been allotted for the year 2001-2002 for the purpose.

(c) As mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

Performance of urea projects

650. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether performance of new/ongoing, joint/ private urea enterprises, including the Indo-Oman urea project and urea projects in private sector have been reviewed during current year;

(b) if so, project-wise details thereof;

(c) the present status of the projects, including the targets fixed and achieved and increase in cost due to delay in implementation; and

(d) the details of the pending projects under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BARTA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Since the Fertilizer Sector stands delicensed as per the Industrial Policy Resolution dated 24th July, 1991, the Government do not review the implementation of urea projects in private sector. However, the Government periodically review the performance of new/ongoing joint venture urea projects involving public and cooperative sector participation. The details of such urea projects are as under:

SI. No	Name of the Project/ Country	Estimated cost of the Project (US $ Million)	Indian Partner Sponsor	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Oman India Fertilizer Company SAOC, Oman	969	IFFCO, KRIBHCO	The Urea Offtake Agreement under discussion with the banks financial institutions. The financial close of the project is likely to be achieved by December 200!.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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